

REMARKS:In the Drawings:

The words --(prior art)-- have been added to Figs. 1A-2B in the attached replacement sheets. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In FIG. 7, the free layer (1022) has been added to the sensor (702). The position of the free layer (1022) is taken from FIG. 10. As indicated on p. 16, lines 3-4, "the sensor 702 can be a standard sensor 702 of any type. An illustrative sensor 702 is shown in FIG. 10." FIG. 10 illustrates a middle pinned layer (708) aligned along a plane of the free layer (1022) of the sensor (702). Fig. 10 in combination with FIG. 7 are believed to be sufficient to show the claimed invention.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 15, 18 and 20

Claims 13, 15, 18 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Carey (US6266218).

Claim 13 has been canceled.

Claims 15, 18 and 20 have been amended to depend from claim 16, which has been indicated as allowable and rewritten in independent form. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 15, 18 and 20 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates allowance of claims 1-12.

Claims 14, 16, 17 and 19

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates indication of allowable subject matter in claims 14, 16, 17 and 19. Claims 14, 16, and 17 have been amended to include all of the limitations of the respective base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 19 depends from allowed claim 1, and so is believed to be allowable. Allowance of claims

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AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1A-2B and 7. These sheets replace the original sheets for Figs. 1A-2B and 7.

In Figs. 1A-2B, the words --(prior art)-- have been added to the legends of the Figs.

In Fig. 7, the free layer has been shown in the sensor.

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14, 16, 17 and 19 is respectfully requested.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 971-2573. For payment of any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2587 (Order No. HSJ920030109US1).

Respectfully submitted,

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